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THE SUN, New York City.

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Present Democratic Sentiment.

Democratic newspapers, at the South more particularly, are stirred up greatly by a report that Mr. CROKER is scheming to shape the national policy of the party in 1900 to suit the squeamishness of New York Democrats, by hiding away the currency issue of the Chicago platform. They assume that his plan is to have the Democracy repeat on a national scale in 1900 the policy of silence adopted by Tammany in the late campaign, and are incensed accordingly. This report, which probably has no other foundation than mere surmise, is supplemented by another conjecture that Mr. DAVID B. HILL has sent Mr. ELLIOT DAN-FORTH as a missionary to the South to work up Democratic sentiment for a like purpose

The Augusta Chronicle of Georgia denonnces all such efforts as "insidious attacks upon the man who stands before the country as the leader of the people in their great fight against the money power," and It warns any Democrats who may be making them that they are digging their political graves. "The people," it says emphatigold platform, even to win New York' electoral votes.

The Neurs of Chattanooga, in Tennesses assuming that "Choken's object is to sidetrack the silver issue and defeat BRYAN for the Presidential nomination in 1900, tells him hotly that the "silver issue is as strong as ever," that BRYAN is " enthroned in the affections of millions of unselfish patriots," and "will surely be the standard pearer of the party again in 1900."

The Constitution of Atlanta, in Georgia, is not so credulous, but pooh-poohs the story that Mr. CROKER is seeking "to place himself in the way of the Democratic tidal wave," saying very truly that "Tammany is Democratic or nothing," and "takes its politics straight." The Atlanta paper sees shead an even clearer course for free silver coinage at the Democratic Convention in 1900 than there was in 1896, since "the next National Convention will be practically free from the obstructive element which undertook to dictate terms at Chicago, and finding itself in a hopeless minori ty, proceeded to give aid and comfort to

These papers express, undoubtedly, the prevalent tone of Democratic sentiment at both the South and West, and even of the great body of the party in this State and throughout the East. If, therefore, there were any truth in the stories that Mr. CROKER and Mr. HILL have undertaken the fruitless task of resisting this overpowering feeling, it is manifest that they would be crushed under the bitter Demo cratic resentment they would draw upon themselves. The cry of 1896 is still the only call which arouses the Democracy to enthusiasm.

Congress and Coast Defence.

The additions which the Senate Commit tee has made to the Fortifications bill in crease it by nearly five million dollars, and, indeed, much more than double it. The amount fixed by the House was \$4. As the House accepted the conclusion of its own committee without change, so the Senate may adopt the bill in its present form, and, if so, it will have to be submitted to a conference committee.

The first point to note in the increased amount is that, while surpassing by several millions the average appropriations of the last six years, and while about \$1,700. 000 ahead even of the great appropriation of the Fifty-fourth Congress at the session corresponding to the present one, yet it is less by nearly half a million than the maximum appropriation, that of last year.

If we look at details, some, at least, of the additions proposed by the Senate Committee ought to commend themselves to the House. The largest increase is that of the sum for emplacements for guns and mortars, from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000. 000. It cannot be a very difficult mat ter to find out how much will fall due under existing contracts, at about the rate of progress hitherto made under these contracts. This amount should certainly be provided for, less any sum that remains on hand. But, in addition, if it appears that these emplacements will not be enough for the mounting of all guns and mortars that will have carriages ready for them at the end of the fiscal year, at the present rate of output of carriages, then for such additional emplacements there should unquestion-

ably be appropriations. A large increase is made in the appro priation for purchasing forgings for heavy guns. As to this item it seems clear that if the ordinary work of the Watervliet factory during the next year will require the furnishing of that additional amount of forgings, the increase should be made. The object should be to keep the factory busy in routine employment, even though the guns are now much ahead of the carriages and emplacements, because it is wise to use our facilities for what will certainly be need. ed, sooner or later. The addition of nearly \$1,500,000 for steel mortars and their carriages may possibly be contested in the House at this time, although no one can contend that they will not ultimately be needed; but as to the increase for coast defence guns under contract, it is only necessary to see what amount will become due and payable under present arrangements and past rates of progress, and that amount

An increase which seems to us to demand special study is that of \$343,500 for carriages for heavy guns. We have scores of guns ready to be mounted that have no carriages. It is therefore highly important to see just how much work will be done on carriages during the coming fiscal year, both in the public and the private works now building them, taking the present rate of work as the standard; and money to that extent should certainly be supplied. A similar consideration applies to the proposed increase for a reserve sup mmunition. This supply should be

should, of course, be voted.

likely to have mounted and ready for ser vice by the end of the next flecal year.

The House is perfectly right in not wish ing to appropriate more money than will, with the balances, be paid out during the next fiscal year; but if the Senate is able to show where, under existing contracts, and with the full routine use of appliances already at work for coast defence, more money is needed, the House should concur in supplying it. Above all, it should provide the means for having, by June 30, 1899, the greatest number of guns and mortars actually mounted and ready for service that is possible under the methods of work which the engineer and ordnance officers have adopted.

Pettigrew Disappoints Us.

Perrignew's great speech against annexation, so far as its contents appear in the unofficial reports of proceedings in executive session, was mainly devoted to the argument that the present Government of Hawaii is not the legitimate Government That is to say, Mrs. Dominis is still rightfully the Queen, and she ought to have the chance, which her sweet soul craves, to be head President DOLE and the other officers of the island republic.

There is nothing new in this. The Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND held the same opinion; and his interest in Mrs. Dominis was much earlier and perhaps even more active than PETTIGREW'S.

The vigor and venom with which PETTIgraw of South Dakota pursues with his Sioux Falls rhetoric the trembling DOLE and his Cabinet is equalled only by the energetic enterprise with which he followed up the same gentlemen, privately, when he was in Henolulu

PETTIGREW's personal observations of the men who govern Hawaii and the story of his unofficial intercourse with them, if frankly and fully communicated to the Senate, would have made an uncommonly interesting speech.

It seems that he did not care to avail himself of the only method in his power to command the attention of the Senate and the country. It is a disappointment. We had almost expected to hear the virtuous Perriquew announce that the scoundrels of the Dole Government had tried to buy him when he was out there, investigating Hawaiian affairs at his own expense for the good of his country.

Public Holidays.

A bill has just been introduced into Congress to recognize Feb. 12, LINCOLN's birth lay, and April 2, JEFFERSON'S birthday, as public holidays. So far as we know, April 2 is not now a legal boliday in any of the States or Territories; but Feb. 12 is, we believe, so observed in eight States, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota and Washington.

State holidays, however, are very numerous and varied in character, and it is quite a different matter to recognize them by national legislation. Some of them are purely local, like Jan. 8, in Louisiana, the anniversary of Jackson's victory at New Orleans: March 2, in Texas, the anniversary of her independence, and April 21, that of San Jacinto; April 19, in Massa chusetts, for the battle of Lexington; May 20, in North Carolina, for the Mecklenburg Declaration: July 24, in Utah, Pioneers Day: Aug. 16, in Vermont, for Benning ton; Sept. 9, in California, for her admis sion to the Union. In Virginia, the two Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida Jan. 19. LEE's birthday, is a holiday, while the two latter States honor in like fashion June 3. the birthday of JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Even as to religious holidays there is a wide discrepancy among the States, Good Friday, for example, being observed as a public holiday in five, and All Saints' Day in only one. Labor Day is widely observed. yet not universally; Arbor Day is a legal holiday in over a dozen States, but there is a wide variety in the days selected. Deco-144,912, and the total now is \$9,052,494. ration Day is May 30 in most of the Northern States, vet in the Southern States other days, and not the same in all of them, are chosen for the Confederate Memorial day. Congress has usually confined itself in this matter to recognizing certain universally

observed holidays. As to birthday holidays, it was a step of questionable wisdom ever to depart from the rule, which prevalled among us for generations, to reserve that particular honor for Washington alone. There are too many holidays as it is, and the list ought not to be increased.

Colleges and Temperance.

The speakers at the Yale alumni dinner on Monday evening paid much attention, serious or jocose, to the accusations of intemperance and consequent immorality, which the total abstinence organizations have been bringing against that university community. Prof. Hadley, for instance felt called upon to reply to them with the positive assertion that "Yale is still a firstrate place morally."

Obviously Yale cannot be so very bad, else hundreds of parents would not be sending their sons thither to spend four years of the period of their lives when such excesses and vices would be most ruinous for them. These parents know from actual observa tion what are the effects of the college as sociations on the boys, and if the dreadful stories about Yale published in the Prohibition organ and recited by the feminine temperance agitators were true, Yale would soon be deserted. If they were justified we should have the confirmation in the careers of the great numbers of Yale graduates annually returning to every considerable community in the Union to recruit the ranks of the learned professions and of trade and commerce. The proof would stare us in the face; but, instead of running up against it, we discover by experience that the average of both moral and physical soundness is higher among college graduates than in society generally,

and the average endurance greater. In the present Senate, for instance, 53 out of the 90 Senators are college graduates. Out of the 357 members of the House of Representatives, 199 are college graduates. It appears, therefore, that the energy, physical and intellectual, which is necessary to political advancement, was not wasted in their college life by these men. The professions are filled almost exclusive ly from the colleges, and never was the strain on their members greater than it is now. Moreover, it is among educated men that the increasing moderation in the use of stimulants which now distinguishes re

fined society is manifested more especially. The growth of the passion for athleric sports and physical prowess which has been so remarkable in our colleges during the last generation has tended powerfully toward temperance. The heroes of the college world are the youth whose high bodily made ample for the number of guns we are | training compels abstinence and self-con-

trol. The college boy who exhausts his vitality with excesses falls under represch, to that we are not surprised at the remark of a Yale student quoted by Prof. HADLEY, that "there is nothing that queers a mar so badly for the best societies as drinking too much." Such a man falls below the standard of self-control established by the athletic spirit of the present college world, and extending from the actual athletes themselves throughout the student community. Self-restraint provokes admiration, and excess invites contempt as an

indication of weakness. The assaults of the Prohibition people on Yale and other colleges, however, will do them good rather than harm. They will stimulate still further the pride in manly fortitude against temptations to injuriou indulgence which provokes the respect of the college world. Doubtless its inhabitants would be better off if they refrained from alcoholic stimulants altogether. Boys do not need them. Their natural supply of spirits is enough in itself, and the addition of a supply of the artificial sort is likely to make them run over into folly.

Comparatively Speaking.

What woes have been inflicted upon th young by the race of grammarians, and what strange inventions these conspirators against the English language try to foist upon the tender mind. Who would have believed that dogmatic grammarianian would have inserted itself into the compari son of adjectives in this surprising way :

" To THE EDITOR OF THE SUR-Sir: My little daugh Pennsylvania:

"'My teacher says you can't compare "black," truthful," &c., which fact has caused a good deal of Hennte to the family "In the interest of domestic peace I pass this pro-

em along to THE SUN, whose decision, I am sure, will be accepted by all parties concerned. "NEW YORK, Feb. 11.

This Western Pennsylvanian theory is the very transcendentalism of grammarianism. It supposes that certain adjectives describing a quality or color describe and represent the abstract perfection and quintessence of that color or quality, beyond which it is not permitted to go. Truth is the invisible, immensurable, and utmost truth, although Mr. SHAKESPEARE, a careless author, didn't know it when he wrote "truer than truth itself." Black is blacker than it is painted, total abvasmal preter Cimmerian darkness, irrecoverable eclipse. The King James version of the Bible ad-

parable blackness "Their visage is blacker than a coal." Mr. SHAKESPEARE, who may be supposed to have studied black somewhat when he was writing about the blackamoor of

Venice, has no scruples about saying, in

heres to the theory of comparative and com-

"Othello:" "O, the more angel she,

And you the blacker devil !" In the same play he speaks of "the blackest sins." And who that ever read "Othello" cannot spout, "nor scar that whiter skin of hers than snow?" "Wasi me and I shall be whiter than snow," says the psalmist.

There may be grammarians in western Pennsylvania who have never heard of Mr. SHARESPEARE'S "silence is the perfect est herald of joy," but surely they know this little quotation: "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union."

"Truthful" seems to be a modern word but "more truthful" and "most truthful" are of thoroughly good usage, just as "true and "truer" are. The absolute and highest heaven of truth is only a conception. Speaking of human approximations to the veritable verity, it is lawful to use the human comparisons. Thus we may say that Baron MUNCHAUSEN is more truthful than LARRY GODKIN, and so on.

Notice that the young lady's teacher avers that the adjectives mentioned can't be compared. It is a sufficient answer that they are compared. Almost any adjective can be compared at a pinch.

The Point Barrow Relief March. The news sent to Seattle from the cutter

Bear tells of the departure overland of the expedition under Lieuts, JARVIS and BER THOLF, which has gone to save from threatened starvation the crews of the whaling vessels caught in the ice off Point Barrow.

The tidings of their danger came toward the end of October, and a month later the Bear started from Seattle with the relief outfit. Twelve days took her to Ounalaska, and then the course was to Cape Nome, far beyond the Yukon. But with winter already at hand, Capt. TUTTLE had to be content with making Cape Vancouver and the neighboring village of Tunnurok. Then the relief party landed, with dogs, sledges, and outfit, and started for the village, whence a trader was to pilot them on sledge march of probably ten days to St. Michael.

When the enormous length of the journey from Cape Vancouver to Point Barrow is considered, the season at which it is under taken, and the unknown character of much of the route, it must certainly appear one of great enterprise. It has, too, the discouraging handicap of hundreds of extra miles, imposed through not being able to land beyond the mouth of the Yukon, as had at first been hoped. The total journey from the landing place will exceed 1,400 miles, which will involve months.

It may be hoped that success will crown this journey, and that it will be completed in season to relieve the whalers.

Fire Furniture.

The record of fires in buildings profes sionally fireproof shows the need of drastic regulation of their furniture. Brick walls, iron beams and stone floors may be little better than nothing without restrictions regarding the inflammability of the property stowed in them. There must be a regular fireproof-building "brand" of desks and chairs. They must be made of metal, or something that won't burn, to please the owner's taste. No common lath for plastering; no wood for casings, doors and windows. All must be made fireproof, or nothing will be fireproof. Private papers are the only things that can be permitted to remain liable to burn.

In regard to the condition of their laboring classes, Mexico and the United States are far apart. But Mexico is the rising, America the declining star.— Denver Republican.

Poor old chap! Why don't you move !

The Philadelphia Record does an unmeant injustice to a statesman of unusual weetness when it represents Col. JIM GUFFEY of Allegheny county as announcing his candi-dacy for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Pennsylvania on "the condition hat he shall not be expected to make any contest for delegates." It is Col. JIM GUPPER'S hope and wish to prevent the making any contest for him. By way of tempering their arder and at the same time showing his own comprehensive

spirit, he has declined to say any thing about the Chicago platform. Not a word from his honeyed lips about Bryanism. What is Bryanism to Col. Jim GUPPEY? He feels that he need of the honr is Gufferiam and plenty of it.

For the benefit of collectors and in response to numerous requests, we repeat the in-formation that Mr. FIDDIAN RAFFLES-MUNK, for twenty-two years master of St. Bee's Gran nar School and now Examiner in the University of Labore, is the author of the ingenious, well nformed, powerful, and remarkable leading article in the London Spectator, in which the authenticity of the Duruy DE Lowe letter is assumed not to be proved, and deep and high oof and warning are given to President McKinley. Many connoisseurs regard this article as the ablest in the long series of Mr. FIDDIAN RAFFLES-MUNE'S disquisitions merican affairs.

It is another evidence of the earnest desire of Spain to maintain the most friendly relations with the United States and give peace and presperity to Cuba.—From Yesterday's Heraid.

"We have there" [in the United States] "only one newspaper which, at intervals, defends our cause. I do not mention him because he is paid for it."-From Canovas del Castillo's Speech.

The Hon, FRANK J. CANNON, a Senator a Congress from Utah, exhales this prophecy: "As things stand to-day BRYAN will be elected, two

Joyfully do we grasp the hand of "as things stand to-day," a needed variant of the old truepenny, "if the election were to be held to-morrow." Mr. Cannon is incorrect, however, in matter, although praiseworthy in form. It is known to Mr. BRYAN's intimate friends that he will never consent to be elected by a vote of two to one. He scorns so base, petty and comnercial a ratio. His principles deepen with the years. Unless he is sure that he can be elected by a vote of 16 to 1, he will give up his job to JOE SIBLEY.

THE SUN asserts that Mr. HERMAN H. KOHIsaat, ditor of the Chicago Times-Heroid, formerly
"made very good pies." On the contrary, the Kohisaat pie was a very bad article. The art of making
pie, like the art of making a newspaper, is unknown
west of Manhattan Island.—New York Desputch.

What we meant to have understood was that KOHLSAAT made good Chicago ples. This must have been so, since by pie-making in Chicago he gained funds enough to indules his disastrous thirst for journalism.

It is saddening to find that the learned and sagacious Indianapolis Journal utterly misanprehends the fundamental principles of Populist education. It finds fault with the course of study in the Kansas Agricultural Colege, a Populist institution of much earnestness, because that course includes too many "rhetoricals" and too much oratory. In the opinion of this Hoosier critic, "rhetoricals and pratory mean the stimulation of the imagination and the neglect of anything that will promote exact scholarship, systematic investiation, or even thoughtful consideration. The understanding is to be sacrificed to the imagination." What has understanding to do with Populism? The object of the Kansas Agricultural College is not to produce farmers, but to produce Populists. The Populist doesn't cultivate his intellectuals, but his rhetoricals. A perfect Populist college would permit the study of nothing except Populist oratory. This Kansas college does well to fill its under graduates with oratory, but it does ill in allowing geometry to be taught to them. Either geetry or Populiam is wrong.

The Hon. JOHN PETER SINJUN of Kansas, long famous for the seal of his probibition prin ciples and the length of his mustachlos, has fallen from grace and signed a druggist's petition for a liquor license. He should not be reproved too severely by his former admirer among the Drys. No man can serve two masters; and for some time Mr. Sinjun has been a reverent wershipper at the silver shrine. By degrees the crime of 1873 has come to me olize his indignation. The Curse of Rum has faded, in his eres, before the Curse of Gold.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The views expressed to-day by "Old Fellow" as to common school education, express the ideas of sensible people generally on the subject, and should be heard of so that the School Board may get some knowledge what is considered necessary for the scholars to know in order that they may hold their own in the world with those who were not educated in this city. NEW YORK, Feb. 14. OSCAR LAUN.

To the Editor of The Sus-Sir: I want to send up a big hurrah to "A Veteran Teacher" in yesterday's UN. Nothing that I have read in conne the present agitation has gone home so direct

Women on the Board of Education. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : Please give space

to the inclosed address to the Mayor of New York regarding the Board of Education app

Bhooklyr, Feb. 14.

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Mare L. Hastison.

To the Hon. Robert A. Van Wyck, Mayor.
Sin: The Associate Alumnse of the Adelphi Academy respectfully ask that in making your appointments for the Board of Education in the borough of Brooklyn you will consider the efficient work which the women upon the present board have done in the interests of the schools and of education in general; and that you will recognize the almost unanimous approval of them by the citizens of Brooklyn by reappointing these women upon the board.

As graduates of a large co-educational institution we gladly acknowledge our debt to the women who share with men the cares of its Board of Trustees, and we are confident that the best interests of the school are secured by the cooperation in its management of men and women.

While granting that men can better perform the work of some committees, we maintain that by nature, training, experience, and the advantage of greater leisure, women are especially fitted to appreciate the ideal relations of teacher and pupil, and to point out and remove the difficulties in the attainment of such ideals.

We therefore respectfully urge that the women now upon the Brooklyn Board of Education be retained by you, or that other women as well fitted be tained by you, or that other women as well fitted be tained to the succeed them. On behalf of the association, Canoling D. Camp,

Wemen Smekers. From the Tobasco Trade Review

There is no doubt that the number of women who dulge in the cigarette is largely on the increase and it is no longer true to say that the only ladies who smoke are Bohemians. There could be no bet-ter proof of the vogue which the cigarette is enjoying among womenkind than the fact that various branches of trade bave started to cater for women smokers. All the smoking implements are construced in the costlicat and prettiest fashion. The cignrettes are made up in satin cases with puffed aides which might be used as jewel caskets when empty Cigarettes, if often used, leave a tell-tale stain or the thumb, so to protect my lady's pink fingers ciga rette tongs of the prettiest description are ma tured. A favorite smoking cap is the Turkish fex which is always becoming to a pretty face, especiall when worn in conjunction with a smoking coat of

Bir Juggernath's Hard Head.

From the Bombay Advocate of India.
At the Telegraph Department ball given in the Town Hall, Bombay, on Friday night, one of the guests, a young man named Mr. Percy Game, about 4 A. M. fell over the banisters of the north staircase on to the status of filr Juggernath Shunkerseth ! low, and his skull was fractured, death being instan

Mis Paverable Impression. From the Atchison Daily Globe.

An Atchison girl last week married an out-of-town man, and there is every reason for believing that he amounts to something. At least, no one has told that he is a capitalist, a big cattle dealer or a banker Such stories are usually told where the man is poor and worthless.

Mand to Hand.

From the Indianapolis Journal.
"And were you ever engaged in a hand-to-hand onflies with a savage Indian?" asked the very young "Oh, yes," answered the old army officer. "Had

four tens best once for a whole quarter's pay." What Killed Asson. From the Philadelphia Press "Pop" Anson has not been the po cago Club he once was since the day he tried to break into politics and pull off a Postmastership for his

CATHEDRAL TOWERS.

theory and Explanation of Their Variation TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIP: There the twin towers of a cathedral should be similar or unlike. We all know the graceful effect of those of St. Patrick's, New York: of Cologne of St. Paul's, Pittaburg; of the Providence Dome. Recently, however, the plans of a new American cathedral have been published, for criticism doubtless, in which the towers vary. The archi-tect evidently felt the need of explanation, for he defends himself by appealing, I believe, to precedent. As the subject is of extreme interast I consulted one architectural firm, and ber to add the judgment of one of its members.

The towers of Notre Dame (Paris) are the same height, the difference in them being in the width. The north one is slightly wider than the south one, but only a student would no-The towers of Rheims are the same in height and width.

tice it.

The towers of Rheims are the same in height and width.

Instead of it being remarkable that there are slight differences (as in Paria), it is remarkable when wa do not find them, for none of these cathedrais were designed by one architect. They were the work of many master masons, each one having a portion assigned to him.

It was each man's pride to make his part of the building different from the work of his neighbor, but usually the pronounced differences are in interior details. I have counted 178 different capitals in such a very small church as St. Trinite, at Caen.

When the façade is symmetrical at all we know that the separate builders must have agreed to make it so. The builders of Aimens were probably much pleased to have made one tower eighteen feet higher than the other, though it is only the weakness of these towers that prevent Amiens from being the finest façades that were constructed at one period. That the spires different Chartres is only natural, for the plain one is 200 years older than the ornamented one.

It is also a question of date that makes the towers of Rouen unsymmetrical. Date accounts for all irregularities in England.

Every English cathedral is a piece of patchwork, showing work of different centuries. Even Saliabury, called of "one style," has a spire of a later date and style.

To sum up, I should say that all Continental differences resulted from one of two causes, viz.: Either because different master builders controlled the different parts (exterior and interior parts), or because the work belonged to different centuries.

Why modern architects do such strange things I cannot say. It looks like a servile following of mediaval builders, but as mediaval builders had a reason for their irregularities, and a modern architect, controlling a whole building and planning his full façade before it is begun, has none, I begieave to say that I consider his performance in this line indefensible.

EMEMARD MCSWEENY

MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, Md., Feb. 13.

A Peculiarity of Royal Blood. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It is apparent from your Sunday leader, in which you "doubt if there is a single instance where a particle of genealogical evidence" in support of the pretension that any members of the "Royal Order of the Crown" come of royal families that you have not kept up with the latest infor-

mation on that subject. "Americans of Royal Descent" is the title of a work wherein the author proves, in two large volumes, that the high social position of certain volumes, that the high social position of certain well-known citizens is not, as has been ignorantly assumed, due to wealth and accident, but to blood. As if to confound the incredulous, it further appears that most of these fortunates, led by an instinct which can only be attributed to the unconacious recognition of equality in others, mated with the descendants of kings.

Thus it happens, as a conclusive pine of the royalty of each, that one may trace user the head of "The Royal Descents of and His Wife" the blood of Charlemague and Alfred the Great flowing side by side, in parallel columns, until happily joined in the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith. Let us be democratic and let us recognize facts.

Fair Play. NEW HAVEN, Feb. 14.

Hose Belsting by Elevator.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Here is a suggestion that possibly you might use for s

In view of the number of fires in the his office buildings, wouldn't it be a good idea to have a hole made in the floor of each elevator and a hole made in the floor or each elevator and a catch of some sort also, so that the firemen's hose could be drawn up by the elevator instead of having the firemen "tote" it up themselves I There could be side rollers in the floor of the elevator, so that it would be easy to haulthe hose. It seems odd to have firemen climb from acidate and to have firement climb from eight to sixteen or twenty stories with hose. Lots of office buildings have elevators running at night. Besides, the janitors understand how to run one. T. McG. FEB. 15, 1898.

"Yaghum "-" Proch."

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: The people in Pennsylvania, who are responsible for the word Yaghum," to designate one who is a sworn enother people, not of Pennsylvania, the task of dis covering the origin and meaning of the word. German "Jag 'em!" which isn't exactly high German either, but means "Chase 'em!

One other very common Americanism is also German. To say of a person that he is "fresh," is simply to call him saucy or impudent in the German 'frech." English speaking people are forever borrowing from the mother tongue of the fatherland. Ask almost any German and he'll tell you so.

How Rewdylam Was Driven from the Trotting Track.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Rowdylam mong ball players has become so common that here f ter I shall stay away from the game until the press nounces its suppression. In the National Trotting Association rules is the

Rule 40, Section 1. "If any owner, trainer, rider, driver, or attendant of a horse, or any other person, at any time and in any place, use improper language to the officers of the course or the judges of a race, or be guilty of any improper conduct toward such officers judges, or persons serving under their orders. or judges, or persons serving under their orders, such improper language or conduct having reference to acts and things connected with the administration of the course or of any race thereon, the person or persons so offending shall be puntished by a fine not exceeding \$100 or by suspension or expulsion." This rule was adopted because rowdpism among drivers and bettors became so prevalent that judges were in danger of personal in jury. Even arter the race they were sattacked in hotels or in other cities for decisions. This rule stopped it all. As the "National" and "American "associations work in harmony and respect each other's fines, suspensions and expulsions, one expulsion, suspension or fine would operate upon some 1,400 race tracks against the offender.

ffender.
The way to stop rowdyism is to stop it.
NEW YORK, Feb. 12.
OLD READER.

Valu Attempts at Prohibition

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your corre spondent who writes bout pro ibition and beer signs thinks that he finds evidence of progress in a New England town over one of New York, and attributes this advance in material pros crity to prohibition He does not tell us the age of the town in either one He speaks of the New England town picking up thing is done in several parts of the borough of the Bronx, a district studded with saloons. Probably if two other towns were compared other conclusions might be drawn and the New York town be far in ad-

might be drawn and the New York town be far in advance.

The writer, who is a total abstainer, cannot see how people attribute so much to prohibition. It has been successful nowhere except in making hypocrites. In a journey, some two years ago, across New Hampshire and Vermont, I had occasion to ask for birch beer in several different country places. In each place we were asked if we wished hop beer. Your correspondent is right, though, in saying that he found no beer signs or saloons, as the writer noticed the same thing in his trip across those States. At asloons are under cover, and a large part of the business is done in drug stores. All the towns of these States are well supplied by the latter. The absence of taverns, however, makes a brighter and cleaner looking town.

Westchester, Feb. 18.

Dispute as to the Signature of Reyalty. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I herewith call attention to a signature that recently appeared with a letter in your paper. It plainly is not genuine.

Lavinia H. Van Westerveit-Dempsey, Queen of the 'Holland Dames.'" Being myself a descendant of royalty (I come of

Being myself a descendant of royalty (I come of the old King family), I am in a position to know that the genuine signature should be simply this:

"Lavinia.

"Queen."

This is the only form erer used by royalty. All others are cheap imitations and spurious. The person who has thus wantonly made light of hier Majesty's prerogative to deceive a plain citizen editor and his readers, should be brought to justice.

Signed, this Fourteenth day of February, in the Year of Our Lord, One-Thousand-Eight-Hundred-and-Ninety-Eight.

At New York City.

Thomas,

King.

Thomas, King. "July Proof."

To the Editor of the Sus—Sir: On a car two darkies were in conversation about a dusky belis. One remarked that she couldn't got him on astring—"Is' jolly proof, I is."
I'm jolly proof is likely to take its place among the qualities approximately wonderful language.

Sidney Wood.

SALT REVER'S SAD CONDITION.

ngress to Be Asked for 8050,000 to Im-LOUISVILLE, Feb. 15 .- Congress will this week e respectfully petitioned to give heed to the needs of Salt River. This stream, by far the

most famous in political history, is in a sad con-

dition, being at present navigable only to gaso

line boats and politicians of the "has been"

category. As the limbo of all who meet with

politics, an effort will be made to impress on Congress the necessity of appropriating \$250,000 for its improvement "To go up Salt River" is a phrase that runs back as far as the memory of men who voted for Jackson. In many parts of the country Sait River has been regarded as a myth. matter of fact Salt River does exist, and not many miles from Louisville at that. It is a tributary of the Ohio and drains one of the richest sections of the State. It rises in Mercer county and flows through Mercer, Anderson. Spencer, Bullitt, Hardin and Jefferson counties. It is bordered on both sides of its tortuous course by rich farm and tobacco lands that produce also timber, fruit and grain. It twists and turns and the current is strong enough to

produce also timber, ruit and grain. It was and turns and the current is strong enough to make progress difficult for even a powerfully propelled boat. It is at present navigated at times by gasoline boats, and then for not more than twenty miles up the main stream and twenty miles up Holling Fork.

Last week a mass meeting of citizens was held at Shepardsville at which a petition was prepared to be presented to Congress. The Louisville Board of Trade will be asked to cooperate in securing the improvement. Sait Hiver's reputation has heretofore been the obstacle in the way of the necessary legislation. Whenever a measure is introduced in Congress and the members think a good joke has been played by some prankish member. After that it is impossible to secure serious consideration. The improvement desired consist of three locks and dams to cost \$250,000, which will make the river navigable for small steamers for nearly its entire 200 miles. The Government engineers have just finished a survey.

Candemation of a Plah Street. From the Morning Oregonian.

From the Morning Oregentan.

While several Klondikers were yesterday buying dried salmon for food for their dog teams, several persons who are not going to Klondike stopped to discuss the value of dried salmon as food for dogs, and one of them brought up a story, printed in the Oregonian a few days since, about three Jersey cows at a mission in Alaska being fed all winter on dried salmon and giving plenty of milk, which furnished an abundance of cream. Several of the crowd expressed doubts as to the truthfulness of the story, when one of the Klondikers said he knew it to be true. He had lived in Alaska for several years, and was there the winter when the hay and millifed at the mission spoken of gave out, and had seen the cows eating the dried fish and had drunk cream from their milk in his coffee.

Of course, no one could dispute such testimony as this, especially as the man on being pressed, admitted that the coffee had a slightly fishy taste. He further stated that when the winter was over and the storms were passed, and the gentle sunshine came at last, and the grass grew and the flowers "blew," and the Jersey cows went out and samboled on the green they never failed to come up on Friday to eat fish, and nothing could persuade them to eat anything but fish on that day. The dealer laid out three large dog salmon, extra, as a sign of his appreciation of the truthfulness of his customer.

Polly's Voice Scared the Robber Away. From the Louisville Evening Post.

From the Leutsville Evening Post.

The residence of Mr. Harry B. Pyne, at 2207 West Madison street, was entered yesterday afternoon by a peddier, who, finding Mrs. Pyne alone, attacked her, and would probably have sinjured her seriously had be not mistaken the cries of a parrot in an adjoining room for those of a man coming to the rescue. He obtained only about \$1.50 in money, although Mrs. Pyne's diamonds were almost in his grasp when he was frightened away.

At about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon a peddler stopped in front of the house and walked in with his hands full of vegetables. As he entered Mrs. Pyne had just locked up a set of vaiuable diamonds worth about \$800. The man saw the jewels disappear, and, glancing around the house to see if any one was in sight, demanded the keys of her cabinet. On her refusal he advanced upon ber, and she snatched up the poker and struck him over the head, momentarily steggering him. He dodged in under the poker and struck her squarely in the face with his fist, knocking her down, At this moment, when he was about to wrench the keys to the cabinet from her hand, the parrot in the next room began to call out, "I am coming!"

The burglar became panic stricken and ran from the house, evidently mistaking the parrot for a man. There was no one in the house at the time except Mrs. Pyne.

No Pupils in This School District. From the Denver Times.

From the Denver Times.

The residents of Otis, Col., are troubled with the problem of whether or not they will be compelled to give up their school district because of the fact that there is but one pupil in the district of school age, and this one is a teacher. J. W. Holt, secretary of the district, has written to State Superintendent Patton asking what shall be done, in the following letter:

"Otis, Col., Feb. 8.

"DEAR MISS PATTON: Last fall we hired a company of the control of

"DEAR MISS PATTON: Last fall we hired a teacher to teach our children two months in the fall and two months in the spring. After she had taught a month and a half she moved out of the district and the scholars moved also, Now we will not have any scholars of school age Now we will not have any scholars of school age until the last of March, with the exception of one, but he is a teacher. Are we compelled to have school the other two and a half months to hold the district? We do not want the district broken up, as it will be several miles for the children to go to school if such is the case, We will have another scholar of school age in July. Please answer."

Cattle Utilized for Smuggling Onlum. From the St. Louis Globe, Democrat

"Some of the shrewdest tricks ever played are by the smugglers of oblum," said H. A. Fanning of Scattle. "A very unique smuggling scheme was unearthed a few years ago by United States secret service officers in North Dakota. It was noticed that an unusually large number of cattle were being driven across the line to the North Dakota markets, and the secret service men planned an investigation. For service men planned an investigation. line to the North Dakota markets, and the secret service men planned an investigation. For some time their work was in vain, and they had about given up hope of discovering any unlawful operations when an accident revealed the fact that the nostrils of the cattle were stuffed with opium wrapped carefully in tin foil. In this way each steer was worth twice its normal value. Hundreds upon hundreds of animals had been driven across the border with their nostrils loaded with opium, and it was estimated that the smugglers had cleaned up a profit of \$25,000 before the discovery was made. But the smugglers were sly and they escaped and were never captured."

Still at the Old Stand.

From the Chicago Daily Tribune. A boy about 10 years old stood by the side of a penny-in-the-slot machine in one of the elevated railway stations the other morning weeping bitterly.

"What's the matter, son?" asked a man on his way to the upper platform, stepping a moment at the doorway.

"I put a cent in this slot," blubbered the boy, "and it was the wrong slot. I didn't g-get any gum!"

gum !"
"Is that all, my lad !" said the man. "Show
me the right slot and I'll drop one in for you."
"I'd ruther d-drop it in myself!" sobbed the

urchin,
The sympathizing citizen gave him the coin I do sympathizing citizen gave him the coin and burried up the stairway.

And when the sympathizing citizen came back from downtown, ten hours later, that boy was still standing by the side of that penny-in-the-slot machine, with his pocket full of one-cent coins, and still blubbering.

Willing to "Stack Thunder" to He Married. From the Richmond Dispatch.

From the Richmond Dispatch.

GREIN BAY, Va., Feb. 12.—The Rev. F. W.
Berry was called on to perform a marriage at a
late hour one night this week. The groom was
a colored man, and was on hand with his bride
without a dollar in the world to pay the minister's tee. However, he seemed determined not
to be ballled by small obstacles, and told the
minister he would perform manual labor and
would willingly do snything to be wedded,
stating he would "stack thunder and catch at
lighting," if necessary. They were soon made
man and wife.

Sixteen Asks Divorce from Eighty-five.

From the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune. From the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

MUNCIE, Ind., Fub. 11.—Dr., Nelson B. Clouser,
85, of Hartford City, and Miss Rosa Dill. 16, of
Muncie, were married last September. The
bride was poor, but pretty. He promised her a
big check and the deed for a handsome new
home prepared for them in Hartford City as soon
as the woulding was over, but, she says, he made
neither present. The young wife came home
several days ago, and is preparing to ask for
divorce and \$20,000 alimony on grounds of
cruelty. An army of lawyers. cruelty. An army of lawyers is being employed by both sides.

Jubilee Silks Cheap in London. From the Drapers' Record. The trail of the Jubilce-or rather of the Jubilce

failures—is over the sales. Some of our leading West End houses laid in an extra supply of rich and expensive materials for the numerous country and fo eign customers expected for that occasion, and who, sign customers expected for that occasion, and who, alast were conspicuous by their absence. In conse-quence, silks, satins, valvets, and brocades are offered for less than half their original price, and genuine bargains are to be had.

GOLD IN BRITISH GULANA.

Experis Say the Barima and Other Mines

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Jan. 31.-A most important report bearing on the gold resources of the northwest district of British Guiana has just been issued from the Government Secretary's office of that colony. The report is made by the Government analyst and acting Commissioner of Mines, and its purpose is give scientific information as to the auriforage

character of that territory.

The non-success of the Barima mine, due entirely to careless management, has done much during the past year to shake confidence in the quarts mining industry in that district. This confidence was in some degree restored by the promising commencement of operations by the Winters mine, and the feeling was strengthened by the favorable views of Dr. Nicholson, a mining expert, who visited the spot and made a report on behalf of an English syndicate. The mining expert, who visited the spot and made a report on behalf of an English syndicate. The present official survey should do much to reassure capitalists as to the gold producing properties of this rich region. The views of their porters are summarized in one paragraph. After a careful inspection of the region they arrive at the conclusion that "as regards gold mining proper, this district possesses capabilities favorable to the working of the quartzrests in the decomposed rocks, and also of the large deposits of surface gravels and flow quarts, and that, with careful economic and skilled supervision, mines similar to the Harimao ought to yield profitable returns. As regards the prospects of deep mining, nothing can be said, as in no place at the time of our visit had development been carried out to a sufficient extent to allow any judgment to be formed."

The situation in Dutch Guiana has assumed a serious phase. Another example has been given of the rabid anti-foreign feeling which prompted the refusal by the Netherlands Government to promulgate the ordinance granting the Barr-Robertson syndicate favorable terms for exploration for gold. An American syndicate, which had proposed a railroad scheme to the local Government to open up the gold district, and which had received its conditional approval, has been informed that instructions have been received from the home Government to refuse the application.

Much excitement prevails in Surinam over this opposition to foreign enterprise, and the local feeling is entirely against the Netherlands Government.

Mr. Liebrandt's Companionable Crow.

Mr. Liebraudt's Companionable Crew.

From the Indianapolis Journal.

SEYMOUR, Ind., Feb. 11.—Henry Liebrandt of this city is the owner of a jet black crew, one year old, which he has raised, having taken it out of its mother's nest while yet unable to fly.

The crow is something out of the ordinary, being able to speak a great many words. It is very fond of the children of the family, and iollows them to the public school, where it perches itself on a limb, and, as the children disappear through the doorway, it delivers itself of the following admonition, which it had heard offtimes repeated by their mother: "Now, beright good, and come home as seon as school is out!"

Having seen the children asfely to school, is sometimes immediately returns to its home on the outskirts of the city, where it feeds the chickens and plays with the cat and dog, while at other times it remains in the vicinity of the school building and flies from windows!! to windowsill of the rooms in which the children are assigned. The crow knows every chicken about the Liebrandt home and whenever are windowsill of the rooms in which the children are assigned. The crow knows every chicken about the Liebrandt home, and whenever any strange ones appear't fights them off the premises. At night it roosts with the chickens, Every Sunday it follows the children to the First M. E. Sunday School, and whenever it sees Mr. or Mrs. Liebrandt it salutes them with: "Hello, pat" or "Hello, mat" The crow is a great favorite, and many of its kinsmen have attempted to allure it away, but to no avail, Mr. Liebrandt has received many flattering money offers for the crow, but refuses to park with it.

The Lobster Reached Out.

From the Pittsburg Disputch. A Pittsburg real estate agent, who lives in the East End, celebrated his birthday yesterday. He's proud of the fact that he was born in the same month as Washington and Lincoln. So he celebrated accordingly. His wife had expressed a desire yesterday morning for lobster. Not the common canned staff, but live lobster, the real thing. In spite of the day's exhilaration, the vonder of town lots remembered this, and before starting for home bought two of the finess wide-spreading crustaceans that ever came one of the Atlantic. To insure their arrival in good condition, he had them put in a large market basket, half filled with ice, and covered them with a piece of paper. As soon as

large market basket, half filled with ice, and covered them with a piece of paper. As soon as he got on a Fifth avenue car the trouble began, Those lobsters grew tired of their seclusion and began to got in touch with their surroundings. The car was crowded and their owner had to stand.

Suddenly a sharp-faced spinster startled the car with screams of "Help! Pickpockets! Police!" at the same time clutching the real estate man's arm. "Conductor, have this man arrested! Search him! He tried to pick my pocket!" she exclaimed. cti' she exclaimed.

Everybody looked at the supposed culprit and then those nearest the pair burst into laughter. One of the lobsters was still tugging at the lady's dress.

Golf links have been opened on the grounds of the Villa Pamphill-Doria at Rome. Bear's are taxed 10 year a year in a Japanes vil-

age in Awa county, Chiba Ken. A little hot sealing wax dropped on his hand has just killed the Earl of Clonmell, blood potsoning hav ing set in. Dr. Schweninger, Bismarck's physician, is coly

the stage with a Berlin editor, who will put questions which the doctor will answer. Victor Baillot, who fought at Waterloo and w absequently discharged from the French Army at the age of 22 years as a consumptive, died recently at La Roche-sur-You, aged 105 years and 10 months.

ecture at Vienna on a novel plan. He will appear on

Empress Augusta Victoria of Germany found 144 Serman servant girls last year to whom she could give the golden aervants' cross for having lived forty years with one family. Only one was found in Berlin.

Three travelled Welshmen gave a horseflesh han

just at a Rhondda Valley hotel recently, to which

they invited eighty-four persons. Only seven, however, presented themselves to feast on a "sirioin of fo rear old horse." A case of leprosy in its worst form has been discovered in London. No hospital or home for courables will take the patient in and no means of clating him from contact with other persons has

been found yet. For preventing a railroad disaster by the timely discovery of a broken rail and the stopping of an approaching train a locomotive engineer at Halle u the Saale received a reward of 2 marks (50 cent rom the railroad company.

It is the wife of Folchi, the painter who eleved with the Princess Elvira of Bourbon, who has attained a divorce from her husband, with 300 frames month alimony, and not the Princess, who was never married to her lover. Col. Ibbetson, who died recently to England was

the hero of the last sensational elopement to Green Green. He ran off forty-four years ago with Lair Adela Villiers, daughter of the Earl of Jersey and died six years after they were married. Whether "Hoch!" or "Hurrah!" is the project ejaculation after a toast is proposed is a questina that is disturbing Germany. Prince Ludwig of Have

ria at the Munich banquet in honor of the Kata re birthday avoided the point by shouting "Holla Oxford University has been obliged to lock up the books in the Radeliffe Camera, where the reference books of the library are kept, owing to so many umes being stolen. The worst offenders ere said is

be undergraduates preparing for examination, and the greatest sufferer the department of history. Truffles will soon be cultivated on scientific p ples and are likely to become cheaper. If their s who discovered that the truffle is a mushroom, 'as announced to the Académie des Sciences at Paris their the Due de Lesparre, brother of the Due de Gray

has found out how it germinates and on what leaves its spores will become fruitful. Brussels is having an unpleasant society scandal A handsome Spanish adventuress, who kept a lat-and gambling house frequented by the most facility able set in the city, having been arrested for never made a confession to the police. As a result and

divorce suits were begun the day the divorce to t opened, and the Belgian Attorney-General has to a France has a curious custom of distributing the bacco shops, which are Government offices, to the widows and other needy relatives of her distant guished. Among the recipients of the 201 bure of de fabae given last year are Mme. Jules Sin widow of the Academician, Senator and Minister 11widows of a General of division, of four Generals

brigade, and of a Rear Admiral and the daughters of a professor at the Sorbonne. Two strange tales come from the antipodes. Nov. 19 the Catholic church at Minyip, Victoria, was partly blown over by a storm, and, propped up a beavy timbers, spiked to the ground. A few days later another storm aross and blew the church to the on its foundation again. The ship Nelson arrived it Wellington, having struck on a rocky point, and had several holes in her bottom. Divers found one b

stopped up by a large piece of rock, and another held calked by a fish that had been squeezed in tail first.